

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 280421  
ORIGIN CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-06 /032 R

DRAFTED BY CU/ARTS :BGERSTEIN:PLC  
APPROVED BY CU/ARTS :VSCALISE  
CU/ARTS:DCE  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
CU/AF:JRELPH, USIA/IAA:PPOLAKOFF  
-----089237 230805Z /14

R 230248Z NOV 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR ARS HEDITSIAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: DANCER DARLENE BLACKBURN

REF: BLACKBURN/CU-ARTS-WHEELER LETTERS OF SEPTEMBER 30 AND  
OCTOBER 10, 1977; LAGOS A-24

POST MAY BE AWARE THAT DARLENE BLACKBURN, ARTIST IN  
RESIDENCE FOR THEATRE ARTS AT UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR  
IN NIGERIA, HAS WRITTEN CU/ARTS EXPRESSING HER DESIRE TO  
TOUR AFRICA DURING SUMMER OF 1978 PRESENTING PROGRAMS OF  
AFRO-AMERICAN DANCE WORKS AND TEACH WORKSHOPS ON DANCE  
MOVEMENT AND TECHNIQUE IN EXCHANGE FOR OPPORTUNITY TO  
LEARN TRADITIONAL REGIONAL AFRICAN DANCE.

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2. FYI PRIOR TO HER COMPANY'S SUCCESSFUL APPEARANCES AT  
FESTAC, COMPANY HAD BEEN EVALUATED BY DEPT'S CHICAGO DANCE  
CONSULTANT AS FOLLOWS: "MOST THINGS SHE DOES ARE AFRICAN;  
LAST PROGRAM (JANUARY 1977) SEEN HAD TOPLESS DANCERS;  
LIKE CARRYING MEDIOCRE COALS TO NEWCASTLE. HER AMERICAN  
PROGRAMS ARE JUKE BOX STUFF, NIGHT CLUB ENTERTAINMENT.  
AFRICAN WORKS MORE GUSTY WHEN SHE USED LIVE DRUMMERS IN

AFRICAN CLOTHING." THE GROUP RECEIVED B MINUS (SATISFACTORY)  
RATING WITH COMMENT THAT DARLENE HERSELF PERSONABLE,

BEAUTIFUL AND TALENTED.

3. IN VIEW LAGOS' FAVORABLE COMMENTS IN ITS REPORT ON HER  
COMPANY'S APPEARANCES AT FESTAC, DEPT WILLING SEND  
AIRGRAM TO APPROPRIATE AFRICAN POSTS OFFERING BLACKBURN  
DURING SUMMER 1978. HOWEVER, IN VIEW FACT, SHE IN  
NIGERIA FOR NEXT TWO YEARS, WE WOULD ASK POST TO COORDINATE  
REPLIES FROM POSTS WITH BLACKBURN. ADVISE IF POST  
AGREEABLE THIS METHOD AND IF POSSIBLE, ASCERTAIN FEE  
BLACKBURN ASKING.

4. BLACKBURN ADDRESS IS THEATRE ARTS DEPT, UNIVERSITY OF  
CALABAR, PMB 1115, CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE.

5. DEPT POUCHING BACKGROUND MATERIAL. HABIB

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE280421  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BGERSTEIN:PLC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DANCER DARLENE BLACKBURN  
**TAGS:** SCUL, NI, (BLACKBURN, DARLENE)  
**To:** LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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